## JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Circuit Court, Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, Seat 1

1. NAME: James Crayton Alexander

**BUSINESS ADDRESS:** 

107 E. Main Street

Pickens, SC 29671

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

(office): 864-898-3208

2. Date of Birth: 1949

Place of Birth:

San Diego, California

Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes. 3.

> Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.

- Family Status: Married on April 16, 1971, to Linda Sue Whitlock Alexander. Never 5. divorced, three children.
- Have you served in the military? 6.

I served in the United States Air Force on active duty from 1974 to 1978. I attained the rank of Captain and received an honorable discharge. I was in the Air Force Reserve for a short period of time after discharge.

- List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the 7. degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
  - (a) I attended the Citadel in Charleston, SC, from 1967 to 1971 and received a Bachelor of Arts degree;
  - I attended the USC Law School from 1971 until graduation in December 1973. I (b) received a JD degree on December 31, 1973.

I have not attended any other college or law school.

List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each 8. admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.

I am admitted to practice in SC and the year of admission is 1974. I have taken a bar exam only in SC and passed the exam on the first try.

9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.

At the Citadel, I attained the rank of a cadet first lieutenant and was M company executive officer. I was a member of the Summerall Guards in 1970-71.

Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only 10. the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed. Conference/CLE Name

Annual Judicial Conference (a)

Date

08/21/00:

Ethics 2000 (b)

12/13/00;

(c) 2008 Title Insurance Seminar 09/17/2008;



(d)	12008 SC Family Court Bench/Bar	12/06/2008;
(e)	Beyond the Elements 11: South	09/25/2009;
(f)	Annual Professionals Seminar	11/09/2009;
(g)	2009 SC Family	12/04/2009;
(h)	Social Security Disability	08/27/2010;
(i)	Annual Title Seminar (TIPS)	11/15/2010;
(j)	Annual TIPS Seminar	11/07/2011;
(k)	Everything You Need to Know about Ethics	01/13/2012.

I have been exempt from CLE requirements since 2012

- 11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
  - (a) I taught an off campus business law class while I was in the Air Force in Valdosta, Georgia in approximately 1976 for Troy University for one or two years;
  - (b) I taught an on campus night business law class at Southern Wesleyan University in Central, SC, from approximately 2002 until 2004.
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.

I have not published a book or article.

- 13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
  - (a) I was admitted to practice before the State Courts of SC in 1974;
  - (b) I was admitted to practice before the Federal District Court and Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in 1980.
- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
  - (a) I served in the Judge Advocate General's Department of the United States Air Force from 1974 to 1978. I advised the base commander on military legal issues, advised military personnel on civil issues, and served as a prosecutor for military court martials. I also served for my final two years of service as an area defense counsel representing airmen who were charged with violations of the Uniform Code of Military Justice;
  - (b) I joined the Law Office of John Bolt Culbertson in Greenville, SC in 1978 as an associate attorney. Eventually this arrangement was changed to a Partnership consisting of Mr. Culbertson, Harold Christian, Don Moorhead and myself, practicing as Culbertson, Christian, Moorhead, and Alexander. The partnership was a general practice. I handled plaintiff cases in auto accidents, workers compensation, slip and fall, and other civil litigation. I represented clients in the Family Court for domestic litigation and juvenile litigation. I represented clients in the Court of General Sessions. The Partnership ended in 1983;
  - (c) I formed a partnership with Capers Bouton in 1983 and we practiced as Bouton, Bouton, and Alexander. My practice with this firm was substantially the same as

- with Culbertson, Christian, Moorhead, and Alexander. This partnership ended in 1987 when I accepted an offer to join a firm in Pickens, SC;
- (d) I joined the firm of Coyle and Hughes in Pickens County in 1987. I practiced with Redmond Coyle and Murray Hughes. This firm was involved in civil litigation, real estate, Family Court litigation, Social Security litigation, personal injury litigation, and criminal work. Mr. Coyle was the public defender for Pickens County and I represented indigent defendants in General Sessions Court and juveniles in the Family Court as well as handling privately retained criminal cases. I handled cases involving domestic litigation in the Family Court and personal injury and other civil litigation. I was heavily involved the Circuit Court for both civil and criminal cases. This firm ended in 1991 when Mr. Hughes left the firm. I then formed a partnership with Mr. Coyle;
- (e) Mr. Coyle and I practiced as Coyle and Alexander until 2002. My areas of practice were substantially the same, with the addition of some real estate work. During this period of time, a full time public defender position was created in Pickens County and Mr. Coyle resigned from this position. However, I continued to handle private General Session cases and juvenile cases in the Family Court as well as all other areas of practice;
- (f) I practiced as a sole practitioner from 2002 until my son, Steven L Alexander, joined the firm 2003. During that time, I still handled Circuit court civil and criminal cases, Family court domestic and juvenile cases, personal injury cases, and real estate work. I also began to handle social security cases and became a licensed Title Insurance agent. I also began working as the City Attorney for the city of Liberty, SC;
- (g) Since Steven L. Alexander joined the firm in 2003, my practice has been substantially the same with the exception of criminal cases and adoptions which my son Steven primarily handles. Also, I do not generally represent clients in DSS abuse and neglect cases as Steven is the contract attorney for the Guardian program in Pickens County. I do assist Steven occasionally and represent the Guardian program in these cases.

If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

I have been a trial lawyer throughout my entire career and have practiced extensively in the Circuit Court. As to civil matters, the past five years of my practice have been essentially the same as throughout my legal career. I handle

personal injury litigation, which is primarily representing Plaintiffs, but with representation of some defendants. This litigation generally involves automobile accidents, slip and fall cases, and some wrongful death and products liability cases. While I represent primarily Plaintiffs in personal injury cases, I have also represented Defendants who do not have insurance and who have assets that they are trying to protect. Also, I have handled numerous other types of civil cases that involved issues of product warranties, land line disputes, contracts, trespass, water run off, nuisance, employment non-compete covenants, subdivision restriction violations, easements and rights of way over real property, defective construction, failure to pay off on insurance policies, slander and libel, and even the number of docks and placement on a public lake run by a public utility. I have represented both Plaintiffs and Defendants regarding these types of civil actions, with many cases being tried and going to a verdict either with a jury, circuit judge alone, or by reference to a special referee. Civil litigation in the Circuit court has always been a major portion of my practice and I have extensive experience in these areas.

As to the criminal side of the Circuit court, I regularly practiced in the Circuit court representing criminal defendants up to 2003. As set forth above, I worked with the Public Defender for Pickens County from 1988 until approximately 2002 and I have also represented defendants in privately retained cases. I have handled cases involving a wide variety of offenses, including all types of property crimes, driving offenses, kidnapping, and violent crimes causing injury to other persons. I have tried criminal cases over the course of my practice. Early in my career, I tried one murder case as sole counsel and two other murder cases as cocounsel with John Bolt Culbertson with the maximum sentence being life in prison. I also served as co-counsel in two death penalty murder cases with Mr. Culbertson. In 2003, my son was admitted to the bar and had an interest in the criminal side of the practice and he has primarily handled the criminal caseload since then. However, I have represented a few defendants in criminal matters since then and I have tried at least one criminal case for a defendant since 2003, which upon my best recollection was in the last 5 years. This case was tried in Anderson County. I also served as the Attorney for the City of Liberty from 2003 to 2011. As part of my duties, I was the prosecutor for all criminal cases that came before the Municipal Court and I tried cases in this forum which included driving under the influence cases. While I have not practiced regularly in the criminal side of the Circuit Court since 2003, I believe that my overall experience equips me to handle criminal matters as a judge. Since 2003, my son and I talk regularly about his criminal cases and the issues involved. He is a contract public defender and handles many criminal cases. He uses me as a sounding board to develop strategy and we discuss legal issues and procedure. I have been able to generally keep current with criminal law and criminal procedure.

15. What is your rating, if any, by any legal rating organization, such as, Best Lawyers, Chambers, Legal 500, Martindale-Hubbell, Who's Who Legal, Super Lawyers, etc.? If you are currently a member of the judiciary, list your last available rating, if any.

I was reviewed in 2013 by five clients in Martindale-Hubbell and received a favorable review from all five.

16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the past five years?

- (a) Federal: I have handled one case in Federal District Court and that case did not involve a Court appearance. I appear regularly before Social Security Judges, approximately 20 to 25 times per year;
- (b) State: I have an extensive litigation practice in State Court. I practice in the Circuit Court, the Family Court and the Probate Court. I also have some cases in the Magistrate Court and before the Worker's Compensation Commission. I estimate that I appear in the Family Court an average of 6 to 8 times per month. In Circuit Court, I handle both Jury and Non-Jury matters and have averaged 10 to 20 court appearances on a yearly basis and have done so not only for the last 5 years, but throughout my career. I also handle cases in the Probate Court and appear on an average of 5 to 6 times per year at hearings.
- 17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, domestic, and other matters during the past five years?

(a) civil:

(b) criminal: 1%;

(c) domestic: 40%;

45%:

(d) other: 14%.

18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the past five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?

(a) jury: 10%;

(b) non-jury: 90%.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

Sole counsel.

- 19. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
  - Dodgens vs. Duke Energy: This case involved litigation over the location and number of docks on one piece of lake front property on Lake Keowee and the right of Duke Energy to regulate these matters. Lake Keowee is a man made lake and is publicly regulated by Duke Energy. By its very nature, lake front property owners and Duke Energy are often involved in emotional and contentious issues, particularly if the land has been handed down through a family who owned land prior to the creation of the lake. In Pickens and Oconee counties some families still believe they were unjustly deprived of their land when the lake was created and still harbor deep emotional animosity toward Duke Energy. My clients are in that situation and own one tract of lake front property with three docks. Duke Energy wanted my clients to divide their one tract of property into three separate tracts so that there would be one dock on each tract pursuant to Duke Energy's latest Shoreline Management guidelines. If so divided, the problem for my clients was that the real property taxes on two tracts would substantially increase since those lots would be non-owner occupied and the property has great value because of its location. This was a contentious case and was complicated by emotional animosity. The case was eventually tried non-jury and the trial Judge issued what he deemed to be a split decision with my clients receiving some relief and Duke Energy receiving some relief. There was also an issue of a potential conflict of interest for the trial

judge. During the litigation, some unwarranted harsh words were exchanged between the parties.

There are two significant points for this case. Throughout this emotional and contentious litigation between the parties, the other lawyer and I developed a good working relationship and did not allow the nature of the litigation to get between us or affect us. Both of us handled this case from a professional standpoint and we both treated all lawyers, litigants, and witnesses with the courtesy required. This good working relationship was important to a successful resolution of this case. After the order was issued, both sides filed motions for reconsideration. While the trial judge was considering both motions, the other lawyer and I were able to talk and schedule a settlement conference and I met with him and representatives of Duke Energy, with my client's permission. We were able to settle this case and reach an agreement with which my clients were completely satisfied and that allowed them to get on with their lives in a positive way. This agreement was only possible because of the good relationship developed by the two lawyers. This is a lesson that I learned early in my practice and it has always proven true. Lawyers can disagree without being disagreeable and when lawyers act in a professional and courteous manner, they do their clients a great service. A second significance is that I was able to be involved in a case where a potential conflict of interest for the trial judge came up and I was able to experience how that potential conflict was resolved. This experience will assist me in resolving similar future situations;

- (b) <u>Childers vs. Childers</u>: The parties were divorced and the mother received custody of two children. Subsequent to the divorce, a substantial change of circumstances action was brought as to custody of the youngest child who was a teenager and I represented the father. Numerous contested hearings over a long period of time were held. Settlement negotiations were very difficult because of the personality differences of the parties. One party was extremely strong willed and the other party was very submissive. However, the case was eventually settled by an agreement. The lawyers had developed a good and amicable relationship during the case and this helped with reaching a settlement. The lawyers would not give up and negotiated a settlement, not just that the parties could live with, but that actually satisfied both parties. The significance is that this is another example that a case has a much better chance of being settled by agreement if the lawyers involved act professional and with courtesy and have a good working relationship with each other;
- (c) <u>First Citizens vs. Chappell</u>: A bank sued my client for a deficiency balance due on loan in his name for a car that had been purchased for his ex-wife while they were married. The issue involved the interpretation of sections of the Uniform Commercial Code as to whether the contract was only a financing agreement (client's position) or whether it was a hybrid document that also included a sales agreement (bank's position). The statute of limitations was either 6 years (bank wins) or 3 years (client wins because the bank waited 5 years to file). This was a case of first impression in SC on the issue presented as neither lawyer could find any SC cases on point. The case was tried non-jury in Common Pleas Court and resulted in judgment in favor of my client. The bank chose not file an appeal and I believe that the bank did not do so because they did not want to take the chance that the

- Appellate Court may side with my client and establish a substantial adverse precedent for them. This case allowed me to be involved in a case of first impression on a legal issue and obtain some experience in how a trial Judge handles that issue;
- (d) Young vs. Young: The Court had issued a final divorce order that divided marital property. A contempt action was filed against my client in 2009 which involved his actions as to the marital property distribution. My client was retired and this case involved substantial monetary amounts. The Court on its own raised a jurisdictional issue because the case involved a division of marital property in a prior final order. The Court found that it was without jurisdiction, even though the other party did not raise this issue, that it could not consider or determine his claims, found him in willful violation of the prior order, and imposed a significant penalty and sanctions. A notice of intent to appeal was filed. Subsequently, an agreement was reached at a settlement conference between the parties and the appeal was dismissed. This is another case where the lawyers worked well together and shows that hard cases can be settled if lawyers do their job properly. Also, even though this case was in Family Court, it allowed me the opportunity to deal with a jurisdictional issue, not raised by the other party, but by the trial judge;
- (e) <u>Dodgens vs. Piggly Wiggly</u>: My client slipped and fell in a grocery store and suffered a very severe injury in Florence county. I eventually filed a lawsuit in that county. The case involved extensive trial preparation in two different parts of the State. Witnesses for the liability issue and some medical witnesses were in Florence, while the primary medical resulting treatment was in Pickens. This case is significant in two areas. First of all, it gave me some valuable experience in preparing to try a case in a county which is a long distance from my office. Secondly, it demonstrates that good trial preparation facilitates good settlements. The parties agreed to mediation even though it was not mandatory at that time and the mediation resulted in a satisfactory and substantial settlement to my client.
- 20. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported.
  - (a) OHC Properties, LLC vs. Dewey E. Pajala and Star Pajela, 2007-CP-39-1067. I represented the Pajelas in this case in the Pickens County Court of Common Pleas and filed an appeal on their behalf when the Trial Court granted summary judgment to the respondent. After I filed appellant's initial Brief and Designation of Matter to be included in The Record on Appeal, the parties agreed for the Trial Court's Order to be vacated and the case remanded back for the Trial Court for trial. The Court of Appeals by order dated December 23, 2009 remanded the case to the Trial Judge for approval of the agreement. The Trial Judge approved the agreement and the appeal was eventually dismissed.
  - (b) The Cliffs at Keowee Community Association, Inc. vs. Roger L. O'Donald and Lynne O'Donald and Cornerstone National Bank, 2001-CP-39-1003.

    Judgment was granted at the trial stage to the plaintiffs and defendants O'Donald whom I represented appealed. The Court of Appeals upheld the verdict of the trial court in an unpublished opinion;
  - (c) Ed Frierson, IV, Virginia S. Frierson, and Allie S. Frierson vs. David L. Watson, Patricia R. Watson, Carolina First Bank, 2002-CP-1808. A motion for summary

Judgment was granted in favor of the plaintiffs whom I represented and defendant David Watson appealed. The Court of Appeals upheld the verdict of the trial court in an opinion published as 271 S.C. 60 (S.C.App. 2006).

21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported.

None.

22. Have you ever held judicial office?

I have not held any judicial office.

24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office?

I have not held any public office.

25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office.

I have not served as a judge.

- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?

  I was an unsuccessful candidate for seat 5 on the Family Court in the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit in 2013-14.
- 27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office?

I have engaged in the practice of law as my occupation since 1974. I do have real estate interests and property which I will set forth in #28

- 28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise?
  - (a) I am the sole member of WAL Properties, LLC which owns real estate and rents these properties. I handle the financing of all units and the renting of the units;
  - (b) I am one of three members of SAJ Properties, LLC which has the same general business as in (a) above. I handle the financing of all units and am involved somewhat in maintenance and renting of the units. The other two members handle management duties as well;
  - (c) I am one of four members of Storage on Jamison, LLC which owns and rents a house and storage units. I do not have any management responsibilities for this LLC;
  - (d) I am one of two partners in the ownership and rental of a house, 119 Sadie Drive, Easley, S. C. I do not have any management responsibilities for this unit;
  - (e) I am one of 3 members of the Pelham Creek Investments, LLC which rents Duplex buildings. A leasing agent handles all rental matters including the collection of rent. I am the managing financial member and another member handles maintenance matters.
- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest.

I have been involved in the business enterprises set out above since 2003. I now have 3 business partners and have had other partners in the past, including my father. I have sold real estate that I owned with my father and a person is paying me a monthly payment on a mortgage. A conflict of interest would occur for any business partner, current or past, or their families, or for any tenant in those properties, or for a person paying me money on a mortgage, or their families. My business relationship with officers of the banks which hold a

- mortgage on any property in which I own an interest would also be conflict of interest. I would recuse myself and not hear any case involving these individuals or their families.
- 31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?

I have not been so arrested, charged, or held.

32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute?

No.

33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy?

No.

34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?

I have never been sued professionally. I have been named as a defendant in certain litigation. (1) I owned a piece of real property in Greenville County which I sold and took back a second mortgage. The buyer did not timely pay the first purchase money mortgage and the bank foreclosed. I was named as a defendant because I held the second mortgage. No relief was asked for or granted against me and to my knowledge, the bank completed the foreclosure action and took the property back. This was in approximately 1999. (2) I have been named in at least two foreclosure actions as a Defendant due to an order obtained from the Family Court requiring the home owner to pay me attorney fees. No relief was requested against me and I was named as a party solely because the home owner owed a debt to me. To the best of my knowledge, these two cases are Lingerfelt and Arnold. There may have been other cases in the same situation. I have never been sued because of any debt that I have had. (3) I was also added as a Defendant in an Oconee County case in 2014 but no relief was requested against me. It was a complicated matter in which I represent an estate. A husband shot and killed his wife and then killed himself. I represented the wife's estate and I filed a wrongful death case against the husband's estate which was eventually settled. I also represented the estate in its administration. The only asset in either estate was real property and I eventually received a 50% undivided interest in the real estate in October of 2013 for my attorney's fee. There were other factors when the heirs for both estates refused to pay property taxes due and the real property was sold at a tax sale in 2012. In any event, the ultimate resolution in the fall of 2013 was to redeem and sell the real property at a private auction. Subsequent litigation was already pending between the two estates and a court order was required because the Clerk of Court had to sign the deed for the auction sale. Since I was an undivided 50% owner and I was in agreement with the sale, I agreed to be added as a party in 2014 so that the Court could order the Clerk to sign a deed that bound all of the heirs. There was no relief requested against me in any way but I was voluntarily added as a party only to complete the sale by the Clerk of Court signing the deed. The sale by private auction was consummated in July of 2014.

36. Have you ever been investigated by the Department of Social Services? Has your name ever been enrolled on the Central Registry of Child Abuse and Neglect?

I have never been so investigated.

37. If you are in private practice, are you covered by malpractice insurance and, if so, how long have you carried malpractice insurance? If applicable, have you ever been covered by a tail policy?

I am covered by malpractice insurance and have been so throughout my legal career. My deductible is \$5,000.00 and the liability limits are \$500,000.00/\$1,000,000.00.

38. Are you active on or a member of a social media or Internet site or have you, to your knowledge, been featured or depicted on a social media or Internet site, such as, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, etc.?

I do not participate in any of these named activities and to my knowledge have not been so featured or depicted.

39. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)?

I have never been so employed.

- 40. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal?
- 41. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions

No such action or charges have been made against me.

42. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions.

No such action or charges have been made against me.

43. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek.

I have spent less than \$75.00 on postage and printing costs for a resume.

44. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship.

None

45. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened?

No.

46. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf?

No.

47. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy?

No.

48. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate?

No.

- 49. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
  - (a) SC Bar Association;
  - (b) American Bar Association.
- 50. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.
  - (a) Pickens County Sertoma Club;
  - (b) First Baptist Church of Pickens.
- 51. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek. This information may include how your life experiences have affected or influenced the kind or type of judge you have been or plan to be

I have always been involved with my community and my church. experiences have equipped me to deal with people in a positive way. In my legal practice, I have handled many different lawsuits and I have seen how the difficulties created by litigation affect people and their families. I am a member of Pickens First Baptist Church and have served in many capacities there, including as a Deacon and a Sunday School Teacher. I still teach an adult Sunday School class. I served on the Church Benevolence Committee which opened my eyes to the many needs in my local community. I dealt with people and families in a very personal way that a lot of citizens do not have the opportunity to see or experience and I have been involved in solving a lot of their problems and difficulties. This experience through my church and dealing with people has given me a lot of insight into families and the difficulties that families encounter by many different matters that come before the Circuit Court. These difficulties included criminal charges against family members and various civil matters which affected the quality of that family's life. I served on the City of Pickens Recreation Commission while my children were growing up and even after they were out of the program for a period of time. I coached many different youth sports teams. This Commission provides recreational opportunities to all children in the Pickens area, regardless of financial resources. I served as chairman for several years. Seeing and dealing with the many problems that arose with parents, children, coaches, fund raising, and city officials was challenging. But these types of experiences were invaluable as I learned to deal with people on a personal level. These experiences have helped me assist people in their legal problems on a professional level. While I maintain a professional manner when I handle a case, the interaction that I have had with many different types of people and their problems over the years in non legal settings has assisted me in providing good quality legal service.

## 52. References:

- (a) Jeffrey W. Turner, Pinnacle Bank PO Box 51182 Piedmont, SC 29673 864-335-4804 864-421-4883
- (b) James W. Logan, Jr., Attorney at Law Logan, Jolly and Smith, LLP PO Box 259
  Anderson, SC 29622
  864 226-1910
- (c) James P. Walsh, Attorney at Law Clarkson, Walsh, Terrell, and Coulter PO Box 6728 Greenville, SC 29606 864 232-4400
- (d) Kelvin R. Kearse, Attorney at Law P.O. Box 1504 Easley, SC 29641-1504 864 855-9666
- (e) Karen G. Pruitt, Attorney at Law 201 Werner St.
  Central, SC 29630
  864 639-1800

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: James Crayton Alexander

Date: July 30, 2014